Listing and Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace the claims that were published in the PCT Application and the International Preliminary Examination Report:

- 1. (currently amended) A method for optimized tracking of an optical scanner along a track (1L, 1G) of an optical recording medium, the track (1L, 1G) having information markings (3) arranged in dense succession, and also having fundamental changes in properties (1L/1G, 1G/1L) in significantly lower density, eharacterized by comprising
- formation of a track error signal (TE, TECL, PPTE)
- detection of the occurrence of fundamental changes in properties of the track (1L,
 1G)
- formation of an offset value (TO) from the comparison of the value of the track error signal (TE, TECL, PPTE) that occurs shortly before and shortly after the fundamental change in properties
- formation of the track error signal (TE, TECL, PPTE), taking account of the offset value (TO) and
- repetition of the aforementioned steps.
- 2. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, eharacterized in that wherein the detection of the occurrence of fundamental changes in properties of the track (1L, 1G) is effected by detection of a header area.
- 3. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, eharacterized in that wherein the track error signal (TE, TECL, PPTE) is formed by means of one of the tracking methods: push-pull method, three-beam method and differential push-pull method.

- 4. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, eharacterized in that wherein a different signal that is impaired by the track offset (12) of the scanner is formed instead of the track error signal (TE, TECL, PPTE).
- 5. (currently amended) An apparatus for reading from and/or writing to optical recording media having tracks (1G, 1L) having information markings (3) arranged in dense succession, and fundamental changes in properties that occur in significantly lower density, the apparatus having a track control loop (9, PS, 15, 7) and a track property change detector (16, 17) characterized in that wherein it has an offset value detector (19, 20, 21), which, in a manner dependent on a signal output by the track property change detector (16, 17), generates an offset value (TO) from a track error signal (PPTE) of the track control loop and feeds said offset value to the track control loop.